

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUAYAQ 00396 251431Z

43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SAB-01 FEA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02

DLOS-07 SWF-02 DRC-01 /058 W
----- 062005

P 251300Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3192

UNCLAS GUAYAQUIL 396

FOR EB/TT/MA)

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION PANAMA INFO CURACAO, QUITO,
US MAR ADM WASHDC 23 APR BEING REPEATED TO YOU FOR INFO:

P 231630Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO RUESVA/AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY 228

RUEHCR/AMCONSUL CURACAO PRIORITY 02

INFO RUESQI/AMEMBASSY QUITO 3341

RUECSDK/US MARITIME ADMIN WASHDC

UNCLAS GUAYAQUIL 396

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJ: EMERGENCY SHORTAGE AVIATION FUEL IN ECUADOR -
INTERCESSION PANAMA CANAL CO.

1. CONGEN OFFICER APPROACHED YESTERDAY BY FLAVIO MEJIA, MANAGER
ESSO ANDINA, WHO REQUESTS USG ASSISTANCE OBTAINING IMMEDIATE PRO-
CESSING PERMIT NECESSARY FOR CHARTERED TANKER "ROSARITO" TO PASS
THROUGH CANAL. MEJIA MAINTAINS THAT ECUADOR SUPPLIES AVIATION
FUEL WILL BE EXHAUSTED BY MID-MAY IF "ROSARITO" DOES NOT SAIL THIS
WEEK TO ARUBA TO LOAD AVGAS; ESSO ANDINA, AFFILIATE OF EXXON, IS
SOLE SUPPLIER AVGAS IN ECUADOR.

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PAGE 02 GUAYAQ 00396 251431Z

2. EMERGENCY CAUSED BY ENERGY CRISIS AS EXXON UNABLE TO DIVERT OWN TANKERS TO DELIVER FUEL FROM ARUBA TO GUAYAQUIL. CONSEQUENCES FAILURE RESUPPLY ESSO ANDINA WOULD INCLUDE NOT ONLY INTERRUPTION INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC BUT ADDITIONAL BLOW TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WHICH ALREADY DEVASTATED BY DROUGHT. AIR SPRAYING PESTICIDES, FERTILIZERS AND EVEN SEEDS, WHICH WIDELY PRACTICED ON COASTAL PLAIN WOULD GRIND TO HALT IF AVGAS SUPPLIES RUN OUT.

3. "ROSARITO" IS ECUADOREAN-OWNED, ECUADOREAN FLAG VESSEL, FUEL TANKER OF 13,000 BARREL CAPACITY WHICH REFURBISHED SOME MONTHS AGO IN NORWAY, AND RECENTLY CHARTERED BY ESSO ANDINA FROM ECUADOREAN REAR ADMIRAL (RET.) LUIS GOMEZ CEVALLOS.

4. MEJIA DECLARES HE HAS CONTACTED PANAMA CANAL CO. DIRECTLY AND ANDREWS STEAMSHIP AGENTS IN CRISTOBAL AND HAS OFFERED US\$140,000 SURETY BOND GUARANTEED BY SEGUROS ROCAFUERTE BUT HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN PERMIT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED. FOR PANAMA, PLEASE CONTACT CANAL CO. TO ASCERTAIN STATUS. FOR CURACAO, ASK EXXON ARUBA TO ASSIST ESSO ANDINA IN PROCESSING PERMIT. THESE PARTIES SHOULD REPLY DIRECTLY TO MEJIA, CABLE ADDRESS ESSO ANDINA GUAYAQUIL OR TELEX 3154 GUAYAQUIL.

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